



05.07.2019

The Link Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

HEADLINES

Year 11 Leavers' Ball and Breakfast

Last Friday's Year 11 Ball and Leavers' Breakfast were superb events. Both occasions were extremely enjoyable; the Ball itself went very well and it was good to see our Year 11 students enjoying themselves in a cordial and mature manner. My congratulations and best wishes to our Year 11 students whilst they (and us) await their summer examination results.

Dance Show

Tuesday's Dance show was superb; whilst I have attended many performances over the years at Darwin, I can't remember attending one that focused on showcasing just dance before. The 20 performances (yes 20!) that we were treated to on Tuesday were superb in so many different ways. The quality of what we saw along with the strong extracurricular student participation demonstrated in no uncertain terms how Dance has progressed and how it has become so much more appealing to students. The pieces on show celebrated a wide range of different styles, from Matthew Bourne to Akram Khan, each dance telling a story or challenging us through a representation of a significant situation. My congratulations to all involved.

Sports Award Evening

On Wednesday evening we had the Annual Sports Award presentation evening. This year our guest speaker was Aiden Sayers, the professional sprint athlete and Metrack mentor. I thought it was a great evening excellently hosted by our PE department with Mr. Burtonshaw expertly conducting the evening's formalities

These evenings, like the dance evening I mentioned above, are really heartening occasions. In the case of the Sports Award evening seeing so many students, some who don't always achieve well in academic areas, being recognised for their sporting achievements and talents was particularly cheering for me. The guest speaker's talk was super, I thought the message he delivered about success being a result of commitment, hard work and resilience was very well received and judging by the way that the students were listening to him it seems that they were captivated. Again, my congratulations to all the students involved.

Holocaust Survivor Talk

On Wednesday afternoon Year 9 and 10 students listened to a talk given by Holocaust survivor John Dobai. Whilst I could only stay in the hall to listen for about 20 minutes, I could understand that the talk was going to be a fascinating and moving account of his personal journey as a person of Jewish descent through the Holocaust period, tied in skilfully with an analysis of the political context of Eastern Europe at the time. John had an understated style and the detail that he packed into his account provided insights to the gathered audience that only someone who had lived through such an experience could provide. Judging by the looks amongst the audience they seemed enthralled. These sorts of events add so much to the breadth of education we provide in school.

Year 11 into 12 Taster Day

The Year 11 into 12 taster day this week went well. About 120 students attended the taster sessions and the feedback at the end of the day seemed to indicate that the vast majority had been pleased with what they had experienced during the day. Attendance for the evening's parents' meeting was also good, this meeting is important in terms of enabling the Sixth Form team to outline the key expectations in relation to Sixth Form study.

Sunil Chotai

Open Morning 2019

Saturday 28 September
9.30am - 12.30pm

Headteacher's talks at
9:30am and 11:15am

Open Week:
Tuesday 1 – Friday 4 October

A daily guided tour of the school in action at 08.40 followed by a Headteacher talk at 09.30am.

Attendance

We would like to thank all our families for your ongoing support with attendance.

With this in mind, please can we remind parents to always let us know by 8.30 each day if your child is going to be absent from school.

Please can we also ask parents to support your child's learning by not taking family holidays during term time.

Student Services

Year 11 and Year 13

If you have revision guides or textbooks in good condition that you will no longer need, we would be grateful if you would consider donating them to the school so that other students could use them.

If you do, please leave them in Main Reception.

Ms Kelly

Year 11 Leavers

If you are a Year 11 student we would be very happy if you would consider donating your school uniform at the end of the Summer term.

Blazers, trousers and skirts **only**, can be handed in to Student Services.

Mrs Paterson

ALLSTARZ GYMNASTICS HEAD FOR AUSTRIA



Lilly Ash, Nicole Blackwood, Scarlet Smith-Lee, Maddie Clements & Gracie Watton

On Saturday 6th July, Charles Darwin students are amongst 26 gymnasts from Allstarz Gymnastics Club (aged 6-18) travelling as part of the Great Britain team to the 16th World Gymnaestrada event in Austria.

This is the world's largest general gymnastics exhibition and is held every four years; at the last one there were over 21,000 gymnasts from 55 nations who came together to showcase their talents.

The Allstarz Senior Display Team have been working incredibly hard with their coaches on their routines and also have been selected to perform a disco routine in the Great Britain and Australia Evening whilst out in Austria.

It is an amazing opportunity to represent their club and be a part of Great Britain Team and a fantastic experience to perform in the large stadiums, city performances, and also feature in the opening and closing ceremonies!

We have held fundraising events to support this but are asking for your help in the last part of the teams fundraising. If you can spare any amount of money (no matter how big or small) to donate to this team to assist in their fantastic experience we would be so grateful! This is a "once in a lifetime" adventure for these gymnasts to perform in the World Gymnaestrada in Dornbirn.

You can donate here at

<https://www.gofundme.com/AllstarzGymnasticsClubWorldGymnaestrada>

For more information on Allstarz please email us at allstarzgyclub@hotmail.com

Miss Case

THRIVE PERFORM AT STEP LIVE 2019

On 24th June Thrive Dance Company performed at the Southbank Centre for Step Live 2019. It was a very hot and long day for all but students were able to perform their dance 'Dancing to the 2-bit Blues' and also the en masse performance with all other schools across London to 'Finesse' by Bruno Mars. They also took part in a Jazz and Contemporary dance workshop with professional dancers. A massive well done to all dancers – what a great opportunity!

With Thrive coming to a close this academic year, it is safe to say that students have had so many performance opportunities across the year and have really taken their roles in the company seriously. Well done, and if you're interested look out for auditions in the new academic year!

Miss Abbotts



Pupil absence line: 01959 574043, option 1:
Parents/carers must phone before 08:30 with a full reason on every day of their child's absence.

Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

Forthcoming events - Summer Term 2019

JULY

8 to 10 July - Silver Duke of Edinburgh qualifying expedition

Wednesday 17 July - Year 10 Mock interviews

Wednesday 17 July - Enrichment Activities

Year 7 trip to Chessington

Year 7 and 8 trip to Planet Ice

Year 7, 8 and 9 Mountain Biking at Bedgebury

Year 8 trip to Thorpe Park

Year 8 trip to Houses of Parliament & River Cruise

Year 9 trip to AI Exhibition at the Barbican

Year 9 trip to the Shard

Thursday 18 July—Enrichment Activities

Year 7 day trip to Natural History Museum

Year 7 and 8 trip Thames Clipper from London Bridge to Greenwich &

Visit Maritime Museum, Greenwich

Year 7, 8 and 9 Mountain biking at Bedgebury

Year 8 trip to Tobogganing

Year 8 trip to the Shard

Year 9 trip to Kew Gardens

Friday 19 July - Year 12 trip to Zanzibar

Friday 19 July - Celebration of Success Assemblies

Friday 19 July - End of Term

Monday 22 July - INSET Day - School closed to students

Tuesday 23 July - INSET Day - School closed to students

AUGUST

Thursday 15 August - A Level results day

Thursday 22 August - GCSE results day



DARWIN LEISURE CENTRE

- ◆ **Pay as you go** (*gym use*) **£5 per session**
- ◆ **Centre Member** (*gym use & membership rates*)
£25 a year & £4.50 per session
- ◆ **GOLD Membership** (*unlimited gym use & membership rates*)
£25 a month

**A variety of private classes,
facilities and pitch hire is available**

Enquiries to 01959 540606
email: leisurecentre@cdarwin.com

See school website
www.cdarwin.com for full details



Pupils for Praise

**Duty pupils of the week ending
05.07.19**

Piper Roseman and George Walker

Mrs Mills, Reception

ROUNDERS

Well done to the year 9 and 10 rounders teams who both beat Langley Girls School last night. A great result for both teams who have won all their games so far this season. Two more games to go.

Miss Case

Staying Healthy

Students should bring a refillable water bottle to school to keep them hydrated in the hot weather.

Students are not allowed to bring fizzy drinks or "energy" drinks to school and should not drink these in the morning before school either. This includes Lucozade, which has an extremely high sugar content.

Thank you

Ms Kelly

TERM DATES 2019 - 20

Autumn 2019

Monday 2nd September – Friday 18th October

Half Term Monday 21st – Friday 25th October

Monday 28th October – Thursday 19th December

Spring 2020

Monday 6th January – Friday 14th February

Half Term Monday 17th – Friday 21st February

Monday 24th February – Friday 3rd April

Summer 2020

Monday 20th April – Friday 22nd May

(Bank holiday Monday 4th May)

Half Term Monday 25th – Friday 29th May

Monday 1st June – Tuesday 21st July

Notes:

Good Friday – 10th April 2020

Easter Monday – 13th April 2020

INSET Days - School closed to students

Monday 2nd September 2019

Friday 18th October 2019

Monday 28th October 2019

Monday 20th July 2020

Tuesday 21st July 2020

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DOWNE PRIMARY
SCHOOL

DOWNE PRIMARY

CIRCUS
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THEME
SUMMER
FETE

SATURDAY 6TH JULY

SHOWTIME 1-4 PM

JUGGLERS

FIRE EATERS

BALLOON MODELLER

STILT WALKERS

CIRCUS WORKSHOP

BUBBLE ENTERTAINER

BBQ

BAR

LIVE MUSIC

FACE PAINTING

STALLS & GAMES

TUG OF WAR

AND LOTS MORE!

Contact

friendsofdowneschool@gmail.com for tickets

ENTRY £5

UNDER TWO'S FREE